

GALATIANS PART 22

GAL. 5:19-21

A paradox is a statement that seems contradictory or absurd but is actually valid or true.

Biblical paradoxes:

- The Trinity – that God is one and yet is three.
- While on Earth, Jesus was fully man and at the same time was fully God.
- He who is least among you all is the one who is great. (Luke 9:48)
- We must be humbled to be lifted up. (James 4:10)
- To be great, we must become servants. (Matt. 20:26-28)
- When I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Cor. 12:10)
- It is more blessed to give than to receive. (Acts 20:35)
- We are freed from the slavery of sin to become servants of righteousness. (Rom. 6:18)
- The seed must die before it can bring forth much fruit. (John 12:24)
- He that loves his life shall lose it. (Mark 8:35; John 12:25)
- He that loses his life for the sake of Christ will find it. (Matt. 10:39)
- Paul to the churches of Galatia: I am crucified with Christ, yet I live. (Gal. 2:20)
- Paul to the church at Philippi: I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. (Phil. 3:12)

Col. 2:20 You have died with Christ, and he has set you free from the spiritual powers of this world. So why do you keep on following the rules of the world, such as, 21 “Don’t handle! Don’t taste! Don’t touch!”? 22 Such rules are mere human teachings about things

that deteriorate as we use them. 23 These rules may seem wise because they require strong devotion, pious self-denial, and severe bodily discipline. But they provide no help in conquering a person’s evil desires. (NLT)

Gal. 3:2 Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

Rom. 8:7 The mind that is set on the flesh (the desires of our own hearts and minds) is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot.

Gal. 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Paul Fowler:

The self-seeking desire of the flesh was indicative of an evil and diabolic character of self-orientation conveying self-aspiration, self-gratification and self-promotion...based on a fallacious premise of self-potential to perform and produce for the betterment of man by the self-effort "works" or "deeds" of the flesh.

Gal. 5:16 Walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.